



Biotech Daily

Wednesday July 13, 2022

Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies

- * **ASX UP, BIOTECH DOWN: COMPUMEDICS UP 26%; AMPLIA DOWN 16.5%**
- * **FEDERAL \$29.3m FOR \$88.5m 'INDUSTRIAL TRANSFORMATION CENTRES'**
- * **NERA: PHARMAUST'S EPICHEM TO RECYCLE SHELL'S PLASTIC**
- * **NATIONAL POLICE FORCE OF COLOMBIA HOSPITAL RENEWS IMEX CONTRACT**
- * **ACTINOGEN XANAMEM ALZHEIMER'S BIOMARKER TRIAL AHEAD OF TIME**
- * **MACH7: US COURT DISMISSES AI VISUALIZE PATENT CLAIMS**
- * **ANTISENSE APPLIES FOR GERMAN ATL1102 FOR DUCHENNE APPROVAL**
- * **PARADIGM, US NFL ALUMNI HEALTH WORK ON OSTEO-ARTHRITIS**
- * **ANALYTICA WINS PERICOACH CANADA PATENT**
- * **ZELIRA TO ASX: 'MORE BUYERS THAN SELLERS PUSHED PRICE 94%'**
- * **VISIONEERING NATURALVUE TRIAL 50% ENROLLED**
- * **AROA \$2.1m DIRECTOR OPTIONS AGM**
- * **VISIONEERING LOSES DIRECTOR CHRISTINE VAN HECK**

MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market was up 0.23 percent on Wednesday July 13, 2022, with the ASX200 up 15.3 points to 6,621.6 points. Fifteen of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 18 fell, five traded unchanged and two were untraded.

Compumedics was the best, on no news, up four cents or 25.8 percent to 19.5 cents, with 76,281 shares traded. Alcidion and Cyclopharm climbed more than eight percent; Prescient rose 6.45 percent; Avita, Cynata and Polynovo improved more than four percent; Mesoblast and Pro Medicus were up three percent or more; Imugene and Telix rose more than two percent; Clinuvel, Nanosonics, Neuren and Universal Biosensors were up more than one percent; with CSL up by 0.4 percent.

Amplia led the falls, down 1.9 cents or 16.5 percent to 9.6 cents, with 455,714 shares traded. Nova Eye lost 7.3 percent; Next Science shed six percent; Emvision, Impedimed, Medical Developments, Oncosil and Volpara were down five percent or more; Genetic Signatures and Patrys fell four percent or more; Starpharma shed 2.2 percent; Antisense, Atomo, Immutep, Opthea, Orthocell and Proteomics were down more than one percent; with Cochlear, Kazia and Resmed down by less than one percent.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, THE AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL

The Australian Research Council says the Federal Minister for Education Jason Clare has approved \$29.3 million for six new Industrial Transformation Training Centres.

The Australian Research Council said the funding would train “Australia’s next generation of research professionals” at the Industrial Transformation Training Centres.

The Council said that industry and universities would provide an additional \$57.2 million “to increase collaboration between innovative researchers and industries vital to Australia’s social and economic future”.

The ARC said that the contributions would “allow researchers and students access to the latest live-use technologies and facilities and leading industry experts”.

ARC chief executive officer Judi Zielke said the funding was awarded under the Council’s Industrial Transformation Research Program, and would provide training for research students and post-doctoral researchers “in a range of sectors that improve service delivery in Australia and increase access to global markets”.

“This is an investment by the Australian Government in developing answers to industries’ current and future problems and ultimately providing great outcomes for Australia,” Ms Zielke said.

“The Centres will develop new architectural manufacturing, improving agriculture, creating sustainable mining equipment, improving air quality, better defence industry manufacturing, and using chemistry to solve real life problems,” Ms Zielke said.

The Council media release said that grants of about \$5 million would go to each of the University of New South Wales, University of Wollongong, University of Tasmania, Queensland University of Technology and Flinders University, for architectural manufacturing, composites for sustainable mining equipment, analytical separation technologies, reducing airborne infections through better air quality and biofilm research and innovation, respectively.

The ARC said the funding included \$4.5 million for the University of Queensland for the ARC Training Centre for Environmental and Agricultural Solutions to Anti-microbial Resistance.

NATIONAL ENERGY RESOURCES AUSTRALIA, PHARMAUST, EPICHEM

National Energy Resources Australia (NERA) says it has introduced Pharmaust subsidiary Epichem to Shell Australia for a pilot program to improve plastic recycling.

NERA said its Generater program, in partnership with the Western Australia State Government, connected small and medium-sized businesses to larger companies.

The organization said that Epichem would use its recycling capabilities to reduce plastic waste from Shell’s operations and supply chains in Western Australia, Queensland and the Northern Territory; but did not disclose the value of the program.

In February, Pharmaust said Epichem used oxidative hydrothermal dissolution to separate electronic waste, remove plastics and concentrate metals at its \$200,000 electronic-waste processing project funded by the Western Australia Government (BD: Feb 16, 2022).

Today, NERA said Epichem would use a process which liquefied plastic, changing its chemical structure to make it bio-degradable or able to be repurposed into other products. NERA said the pilot program was expected to be completed in early October 2022.

Epichem production head Dr James Rixson said the Generater process provided “invaluable access to a global business such as Shell”.

“Generater enables us to demonstrate our technology on a real-world industry challenge,” Dr Rixson said. “It is a vital stepping stone ...[to] commercialization.”

Pharmaust was up 0.1 cents or 1.1 percent to 9.1 cents.

IMEX HEALTH SERVICES

Imex says Bogotá's National Police Force of Colombia Hospital has selected it as the provider for its radiology department, adding \$1.3 million in annual recurring revenue. Imex said the department included computed tomography, magnetic resonance imaging and the use of its enterprise imaging platform.

The company said that the contract, through its wholly-owned subsidiary Rimab, was a renewal of the December 2019 contract when Imex "replaced the 20-year incumbent". Imex said that the radiology contract for x-ray, ultrasound, mammography, interventional radiology and fluoroscopy was "subsequently won from the incumbent in December 2021". The company said the contract required no additional capital expenditure, and included a 15 percent increase to current prices, expected to contribute \$1.3 million in annual recurring revenue.

Imex said it would provide Colombia's National Police Force Hospital with its enterprise imaging product, its patient portal, advanced post-processing tools, artificial intelligence tools and Nuance's voice recognition software to integrate across all the radiology functions in the hospital.

Imex was up four cents or 6.1 percent to 69.5 cents.

ACTINOGEN MEDICAL

Actinogen says results from a biomarker study of Xanamem 10mg in Alzheimer's disease are expected to be available by the end of October 2022.

Actinogen said that its previous guidance was by the end of 2022.

The company said it was using about 70 plasma samples from patients in the original Xanadu trial to analyze the change in levels of biomarkers associated with daily dosage of Xanamem 10mg compared with placebo over 12 weeks.

In 2019, Actinogen fell as much as 70.8 percent on news that its 186-patient, phase II Xanadu trial of Xanamem for Alzheimer's disease "did not achieve statistical significance" (BD: May 7, 2019).

Today, the company said the study would analyze stored plasma samples from the Xanadu phase II trial.

Actinogen was unchanged at 5.1 cents with 2.1 million shares traded.

MACH7 TECHNOLOGIES

Mach7 says that on June 8, 2022 the US District Court for the District of Delaware has granted its request to dismiss all claims made by the Plano, Texas-based AI Visualize. Mach7 said the Court based its dismissal on a finding that AI Visualize's patents were "not eligible for patenting".

Last year, the company said that AI Visualize alleged that Nuance Communication's Powershare Network, in combination with Mach7's Eunity diagnostic image viewing platform, infringed four US patents, which described "methods and systems for fast access to advanced visualization of medical scans and 3-dimensional views using a dedicated web portal" (BD: Nov 8, 2021).

Mach7 said at that time that the allegations were "wholly without merit and it remains fully committed to the continued development and support of the Eunity enterprise viewing [product]" and it would "vigorously defend itself against [the] allegations".

Today, the company said AI Visualize had until August 8, 2022, to appeal the dismissal to the US Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, and in that event, Mach7 would defend itself. Mach7 was up six cents or 10.6 percent to 62.5 cents.

ANTISENSE THERAPEUTICS

Antisense says it has applied to Germany's Bundesinstitut für Arzneimittel und Medizinprodukte for approval to trial ATL1102 for Duchenne muscular dystrophy. Last year, Antisense said it had UK and European regulatory approval for a phase IIb/III trial of ATL1102 in children with Duchenne muscular dystrophy (BD: Dec 14, 2021). Today, the company said that submitting the German application was a "significant milestone ... encapsulating an extensive effort by the company in establishing an agreed clinical and regulatory pathway with European Medicines Agency". Antisense said it was committed to initiating the trial "as soon as possible". Antisense fell 0.1 cents or 1.2 percent to 8.2 cents.

PARADIGM BIOPHARMA

Paradigm says it has partnered with the US National Football League (NFL) Alumni Health to inform its members about osteoarthritis and potential trial participation. IN 2019, Paradigm said the request for the expanded access program of Zilosul, or injectable pentosan polysulfate sodium (PPS), would include retired National Football League players, who were three times more likely to have early-onset osteoarthritis and had failed the standard-of-care (BD: Aug 7, 2019). Today, the company said it was introduced to NFL Alumni Health by participants in expanded access program, who it said had become strong advocates of Zilosul for knee osteoarthritis treatment. Paradigm was unchanged at \$1.05.

ANALYTICA

Analytica says the Canada Patent Office has granted it a patent for its Pericoach intra-vaginal pelvic floor exercise system. Analytica said the patent, titled 'Intra vaginal device to aid in training and determining muscle strength', would protect the Pericoach system until October 16, 2035. Analytica fell 0.05 cents or 33.3 percent to 0.1 cents.

ZELIRA THERAPEUTICS

Zelira has told the ASX that more buyers than sellers may have pushed its share price 94.1 percent, as investors began to better understand the company. The ASX said Zelira's shares rose 94.1 percent from \$1.02 on July 6 to \$1.98 on July 12, 2022, prior to announcing German approval for its marijuana-based Zenivol for insomnia. Zelira said the price movement "was most likely driven by an increase in small volume buyers being met by a reduction in small volume sellers", as investors began "to identify the unique investment opportunity Zelira's multiple shots on goal strategy presents". The company said it was in the process of drafting an announcement in relation to the German regulatory decision, and requested a trading halt "upon the ASX forming the view that the information ceased to be confidential". Zelira said that it "was in the process of preparing an announcement in relation to this matter, and was relying on [ASX] Listing Rule 3.1A.2 not to announce that information under Listing Rule 3.1 on the basis that a very limited number of employees within the company were in possession of the information and the company considered the information to be confidential". Zelira was up 26 cents or 13.1 percent to \$2.24.

VISIONEERING TECHNOLOGIES

Visioneering says its 144-patient trial of its Naturalvue Multifocal 1-day lens for myopia progression control is 50 percent enrolled.

In January, Visioneering said it had enrolled the first of 144-patients in the trial aiming to demonstrate and quantify the efficacy of the lenses (BD: Jan 24, 2022).

The company said it expected to complete enrolment in the trial by September 2022.

Visioneering was up 0.25 cents or 0.8 percent to 30.25 cents.

AROA BIOSURGERY

Aroa says shareholders will vote to issue five directors 5,096,475 options, as well as \$NZ1,612,404 (\$A1,459,826) worth of options to its managing-director, Brian Ward.

Aroa said the directors' options would be additional to cash fees, and would be exercisable at the five-day volume-weighted average price at the time of grant, and within three years.

The company said the annual general meeting would vote to issue directors Steve Engle, Phil McCaw, John Pinion, and John Diddams would each receive \$NZ120,000 (\$A109,000) in options, and Jim McLean \$NZ180,000 (\$A163,000), all vesting annually in three equal tranches.

Aroa said John Diddams would receive a further \$NZ16,000 in options, vesting four months after date of grant.

The company said the long-term incentive options to be issued to chief executive officer Brian Ward would be exercisable at \$1.165 each, within five years, vesting in two equal tranches contingent on performance and service.

Aroa said shareholders would also vote on the re-election of directors Mr McLean and Mr Engle and auditor's remuneration.

The meeting will be held virtually and at Aroa's office at 64 Richard Pearse Drive, Mangere, Auckland, New Zealand, on August 10, 2022 at 1pm (NZST), 11am (AEST).

Aroa was unchanged at 75 cents.

VISIONEERING TECHNOLOGIES

In an Appendix 3Z final director's interest notice Christine van Heek says she ceased to be a non-executive director of the company on July 11, 2022.